

**DOWNTOWN INDUSTRIAL DISTRICT
BUSINESS IMPROVEMENT DISTRICT
BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING
APRIL 7, 2015
MINUTES**

BOARD MEMBERS

Present: **Dilip Bhavnani, Ernie Doizaki, Larry Rauch, Mark Shinbane, Bob Smiland.**

Absent: **Andy Bales, Jim Barich, Richard Gardner, Sylvia Kavoukjian, Howard Klein, Matt Klein.**

Staff: **Raquel Beard, Edward Camarillo, Fred Faustino**

Consultant(s): **Ken Coelho (RBZ); Don Steier (Guzin Steier)**

Guests: **Jessica Borek (Rodriguez Strategies), LAPD Sgt. Flanagan, Sara Hernandez (CD14), LAPD SLO Mark Hyland, Kevin Murray (Weingart Center).**

I. CALL TO ORDER

Shinbane called the meeting to order at 9:35am.

II. PUBLIC COMMENT PERIOD ON NON-AGENDA ITEMS

No public comment.

III. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Rauch made a motion to approve the January 30, 2015 minutes, and Doizaki seconded. The Board unanimously approved.

IV. WEINGART CENTER PROPOSED EXPANSION

Murray presented a new fundraising video to the Board. He then presented Weingart's/PATH proposed permanent/supportive housing project that would add over 200 units adjacent to the existing Weingart Center. Murray asked the BID for a letter of support.

After much discussion, the Board tabled the decision until the next meeting to give absent members the opportunity to weigh in.

V. SIDEWALK VENDING

Jessica Borek of Rodriguez Strategies asked the Board to join the coalition to oppose the City's proposed legalization of sidewalk vending. Borek stated that the City doesn't have the resources to regulate vending, nor a solid plan that appoints a specific department to regulate vending. Borek asked the property owners to provide a letter of opposition.

The Board discussed and agreed to:

- a. Opposing the City's current vending framework**
- b. Encourage City to create a pilot program in an area already highly populated with vendors**
- c. Research tax issues (Franchise tax board, State, IRS, State Board of Equalization, City Business tax, sales tax, and health department).**

VI. CITY UPDATES

CD14:

Sara Hernandez, Downtown Area Director for Councilman Jose Huizar reported that the Councilman is securing funding for Operation Healthy Streets and Sanitation ongoing, so the cleanings will not stop.

Board asked if Councilman Huizar has taken a position on SB608. Hernandez stated that he is against it.

Board then asked if a settlement on City vs. Lavan would be applied Citywide, and Hernandez answered yes.

LAPD:

SLO Mark Hyland, Newton Area reported that sidewalk vending is prevalent in Newton Area. He also stated that illegal dumping is a very big issue, and he's working with Sanitation to address the issues.

Sgt Flanagan, supervisor of the Senior Lead Officers introduced himself to the Board. He also added that sidewalk vending has been a big issue in Central Area for a long time. Flanagan provided business cards to the Board.

VII. FINANCIAL REPORT

Coelho reviewed the 2015 year-to-date financials through March 31st:

- a. Ending cash- \$773,605.10**

- b. Projected cash- budget will be tight**
- c. 2014 reviewed financial statement is in the process of being finalized**
- d. Renewal fees- \$55,000, paid by current operating funds. Could use prior BID funds to repay, or amortize over the next 7 years of the new BID.**
- e. Legal fees separated from administrative cost**
- f. In line with budget, may end the year with \$50,000**

2016 Assessment

Beard informed the Board that annually the Board assesses the need for an increase to the assessment, per the MDP that increase can range from 0% to 5%. If the Board votes to increase, that information has to be provided to the City Clerk by June 1st of each year in order to get on the County tax rolls. Coelho stated that he would be better equipped to make a budget projection with the closing of April. Beard asked the Board to refer the item to the Finance Committee and give the Committee the authority to act on behalf of the full Board.

Rauch motioned to refer the 2016 assessment to the Finance Committee and give the Committee the authority to act on behalf of the membership without further membership approval. Doizaki seconded. The unanimously approved.

VIII. OPERATIONS

Report On Maintenance & Security Issues

During the 1st quarter, the BID public safety officers handled a total of 5,761 incidents, and 464 extra patrols. Maintenance 1st quarter totals include 15,079 bags of trash collected (226 tons); 192 instances of graffiti removed; 491 bulky items removed; and 154 weeded blocks in the District.

Camarillo reported that trash collection and hauling costs is steadily increasing. He also mentioned that some of the people living on the sidewalks are becoming more and more volatile; there was an attempted attack on two BID public safety officers by a man with a knife.

IX. NEXT MEETING- TBD

X. ADJOURNMENT-11:40am